

IDEA 0350-67
Copy 7 of 8

1 August 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of Mission C237C

1. General: Mission C237C (Canned Route 1039) was alerted by Project Headquarters at the 2000Z, 18 July 1967 weather briefing. Scheduled take off was 20 July Zulu date. This round-robin mission was planned for launch and recovery

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The course was then planned to go over the northeast end of Hainan, then along the North Vietnam border to a point 120 nautical miles north of Hanoi. From here, the route was planned to proceed southeast to 22 degrees north, then northwest past Nanning. Again a turn to the southeast was planned followed after several minutes with one toward Wuchow and to the China coastline approximately 100 nautical miles south of Canton. Pilot for this mission

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Preplanned Mission Data:

Distance	2447 NM
Time to Landing	6+43 Hours
Penetration Altitude	69,000 Feet
Mission Profile	Maximum Altitude
Take-off Fuel	1320 Gallons
Planned Fuel Reserve at Hi Cone	140 Gallons

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Targets: This mission was planned to fulfill a USIB requirement for high resolution photography of priority targets in South China and along the North Vietnam border. 25 COMOR targets, of which 13 required base line coverage, were scheduled to be covered.

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25X1D 2. Mission Data as Flown: The Article was launched at [] 20 July 1967. Take off had been scheduled for [] but was adjusted to make the control point good due to strong tail winds outbound. Landing time was [] Total flight time was 6+40 hours of which 2+31 hours was flown over denied territory. Penetration altitude over the briefed entry over northeast Hainan was 69,000 feet. All eleven flight lines were flown as briefed with only minor deviations from course on five of them. In fact, the mission pilot adhered very close to the briefed route throughout the flight. 45 priority COMOR targets were photographed. Of this number, base line coverage was obtained on 8 of them. In addition to the COMOR targets above, 20 bonus targets were picked up. Generally, the weather was as briefed. Although the area of interest was forecast to be Category II, a small amount of Category III and IV weather was encountered, however, it did not impair the photo quality excessively. An estimated 35% cloud coverage was over the area of interest during the time of the photo runs.

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3. Air Defense Reactions (ChiCom):

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b. Fighter Reaction: On this mission the pilot observed three bogeys. The first two were obviously attempting an intercept but fortunately with negative

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results. The first enemy aircraft was seen shortly after entry and 20,000 feet below the Article. A zoom was initiated by the bogey after maneuvering aft of the U-2. Evasive action taken eliminated this threat. The second intercept occurred shortly after penetration of the China mainland. This was first observed 1,000 feet above and 2,000 feet left at the 7 o'clock position. Crossover was made 2,000 to 2,500 feet in front of the mission aircraft going down and behind. Even though this was a close encounter, identification of the type aircraft was not evident. The description given at debriefing was of a shiny plane with a droopy tail similar to the F4C with no markings observed. The third bogey was sighted approximately 60 NM east of Nanning. This one was 5 to 10 nautical miles right and 5 nautical miles behind the U-2 at approximately 50,000 feet altitude. No intercept was attempted. Four other instances of fighter reaction were observed but only as contrails. Two of these were between 80 and 100 nautical miles north of Kep Airfield, North Vietnam. The next contrail appeared 50 NM southwest of Nanning and the last one 40 NM to the east of that airfield. Estimated altitude of the contrails was 50,000 feet at varying positions and headings. The mission pilot was unable to identify any of the unfriendly aircraft observed.

4. Sightings: Other than the fighter reaction observations, nothing else significant was reported by the pilot other than he saw Ningming and Nanning Airfields.

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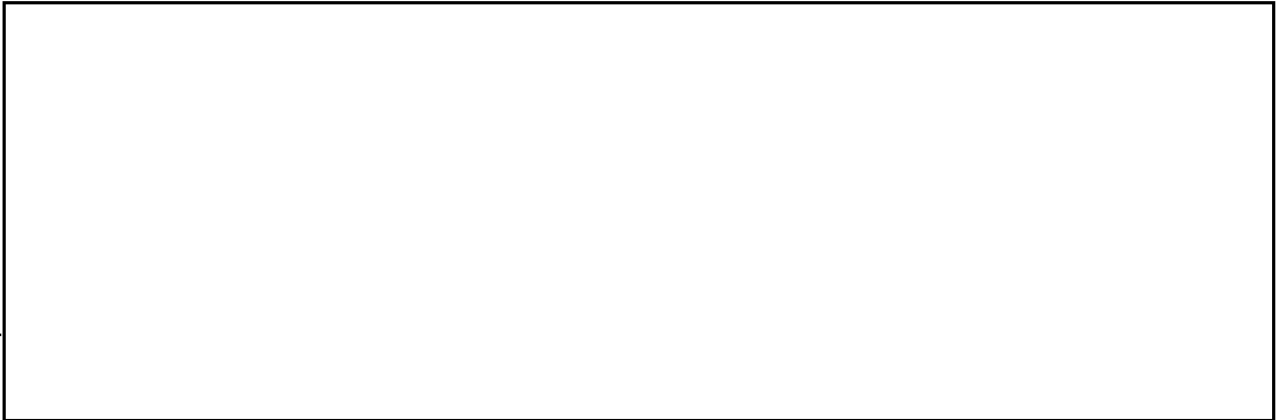
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7. Photo Quality Analysis:

a. The Film Evaluation Report submitted by [redacted] rated the film quality as good with the exception of contrast, 9R metering and data recording which were considered fair. Discrepancies noted were:

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- (1) Edge static was apparent throughout 9L and 9R.
- (2) 5 frames on 9R had metering roll static.
- (3) There were approximately 25 frames that had pinholes on 9L and 9R.
- (4) Frilling was revealed on 45 frames on 9L.
- (5) 8 frames on 9L had abrasions.

b. The Immediate Photo Interpretation Report (IPIR) prepared by [redacted] reported the overall quality of the film as good with 35% cloud cover. The majority of the target photos that were classified fair or poor were obliques and/or partially obscured by clouds or haze. A breakdown by target reveals 19 rated good, 26 fair and 20 as poor in so far as interpretability. No discrepancies were reported on the "B-2" Configuration used on this mission.

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8. Maintenance: Article 383 was scheduled for and flew this mission. No discrepancies were reported on the aircraft general, engine or allied equipment.

9. Communications: All communication equipment, navigational aids and the [redacted] operated satisfactorily on Mission C237C. 25X1A

SIGNED

[redacted]
C/IDEA/OSA

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Attachments - 2

1. Route Overlay
2. Targets Covered

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IDEA/OSA [redacted] aea (31 Jul 67)

Distribution:

- #1 - D/SA
- #2 - D/O/OSA
- #3 - SSD/R&D/OSA
- #4 - INTEL/OSA
- #5 - D/M/OSA
- #6 - IDEA/OSA
- #7 - RB/OSA
- #8 - Holdback

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MISSION C237C (canned mission #1039) 19 July '67

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INTERPRET- ABILITY	REMARKS
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TARGET COVERAGE REPORT FOR

MISSION C237C (canned mission #1039) 19 July '67

PART II (BONUS COMOR TARGETS)

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COMOR NO.	INSTALLATION NAME		INTERPRET- ABILITY	REMARKS
	Pei Hu Tsun Radar Facility	CH	fair	clear
	Hanoi/Gia Lam A/F	VN	poor	haze
	Phuc Yen A/F	VN	poor	haze
	Hoa Lac A/F	VN	poor	haze
	Kep A/F	VN	poor	scat. clouds
	Wu Chou A/F	CH	poor	scat. clouds
	Wei Chou Island Suspect Shipyard	CH	good	scat. clouds
	Pei Hai Naval Base	CH	poor	heavy clouds
	Nan Ao Port Facilities	CH	good	clear
	Chu Chiu Probable Barracks Area	CH	fair	scat clouds
	Ching Hsi Probable Military Storage	CH	good	clear
	Wen Chiao Military Installation	CH	fair	obliquity
	Wen Chang Army Barracks South	CH	poor	scat. clouds
	Lung Tang Army Barracks	CH	poor	haze
	Ping Hsiang Army Depot	CH	good	scat. clouds
	Bac Can Army Barracks and Supply	VN	poor	haze, obliquity
	Hai Kang Hq 144 Infantry Div.	CH	poor	scat. clouds obliquity
	Ping Hsiang RR to Dong Dang	CH	poor	haze, obliquity
	Pei Wu Hsu Munitions Storage	CH	poor	heavy clouds obliquity
	Cao Bang Complex	VN	good	clear scat. clouds
	Po Lo Shih Military Complex	CH	fair	obliquity clear
	Sifa Point Probable Coastal Defense Site	CH	fair	obliquity

'TARGET' COVERAGE REPORT FOR

MISSION 02370 (canine mission #1039) 19 July '67

PART III (OTHER BONUS TARGETS)

[illegible]

A.

DATA BASE TARGETS COVERED BY MISSION C237C:

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1.	<input type="text"/>	Lang Son A/F	VN
2.	<input type="text"/>	Ning Ming A/F	CH
3.	<input type="text"/>	Ching Lan Naval Base	CH
4.	<input type="text"/>	Ping Hsiang RR to Dong Dang	CH
5.	<input type="text"/>	Kuei Hsien Army Bks.	CH
6.	<input type="text"/>	Dong Dang Complex	VN
7.	<input type="text"/>	Cao Bang Complex	VN
8.	<input type="text"/>	Heng Hsien HPP Lock & Dam	CH

B.

23	of 25 programmed targets covered
22	other COMOR targets covered (not programmed)
<hr/> 45	Total COMOR Targets covered
20	Bonus targets (non COMOR) covered
<hr/> 65	Total

C.

Of the 45 COMOR targets covered, 21 are Priority 1; 6 are Priority 2; and 18 are Priority 3.

D.

The overall quality of Mission C237C was good with 35% cloud cover.
(per overseas readout,)

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